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XII. SEPTEMBER,
1911, NO. 1, PP.69-95**

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**THE NEW-CHURCH
LEAGUE JOURNAL**


Vol. XII

SEPTEMBER, 1911

No. 1

Published Bi-Monthly by the American New-Church League

A Young People's
Magazine with
a Purpose



IN THIS NUMBER

Mr. Smyth advises the young people, the activities of the National League are plainly set forth, and the joy of work is discussed in articles and editorials

To the Superintendents and Teachers of Sunday Schools

THE LESSON CHART, which the Lesson Committee of the American New-Church Sunday-School Association has prepared for the Season 1911-1912, for all grades, will shortly be ready. Copies should now be ordered from the Publishers of Sunday Afternoons, 2129 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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The Editor's Problem

AN OPEN LETTER

Can I get every League member to assist me in my plans for the remaining three numbers of this volume? Can I interest you? Can I awaken you? Can I enthuse you? Can I reach you by any method of presenting your own cause? Can I really show you what the JOURNAL means to the League and what are its possibilities? These are the problems that face me today.

I have been working quietly but steadily to put the JOURNAL on its feet, to make it a bright, interesting, helpful magazine; the official organ of the American League, and at the same time, broad enough to be missionary in character so that we might enlist readers among the thinking, unsatisfied young people of the dying Old Church. I have called for suggestions, help, advice and writers, and I renew the call now. I have edited your magazine along my own ideas of what a modern, progressive, religious publication should be. Even though the tone of the magazine and the commercial element that I am introducing does not meet with everyone's approval, I ask you to support me in the remaining three issues of my editorship.

A full-page advertisement in the November number gave all Leagues the opportunity of sending the JOURNAL to a friend and 50 cents to the JOURNAL. It would be polite to say that the responses to this offer were gratifying, though we hoped for more—but it would be a silly statement and untrue. Ten new subscriptions for outside friends coming from a League of almost 1,000 speaks very poorly for your interest in the JOURNAL'S success or the Church's missionary duty.

I am campaigning! I am campaigning for the life and success of your JOURNAL. The saddest failures in this world are men, institutions, churches who are not self-supporting. If I cannot make your JOURNAL self-supporting, its existence is a disgrace and a failure. I am determined to make your JOURNAL financially sound; and so I appeal to you in this way, presenting the facts without rhetorical adornment.

This is the first determined, official announcement of my campaign and my methods. Three propositions are now on foot, to which Leaguers can subscribe and so be of real and not merely theoretical assistance.

The first is the offer of November, repeated. Think of a friend you would like to interest; send his name with 50c to the Subscription Agent, and he will be in touch with us for one year. Something in one of the numbers may open up new thoughts and let in new light, to lead your friend on to greater usefulness and greater happiness. Do this now!

Next is the announcement made editorially in this number of a few bound copies of this Volume (XII) which will be sold at \$1.50. Send your orders at once, so that we may count on this money and make necessary arrangements for the binding.

The third is a new plan of placing the JOURNAL on sale through our regularly appointed local agents, in all our churches. January 28th is League Sunday. The JOURNAL will be on sale at that time, and local agents are urged to dispose of the copies that have been sent to them, to ask for more at once if they can use them, and to solicit subscriptions from Church people at the regular rate of 60c per year.

This is the JOURNAL on the natural plane. If we are a success in a business way, our spiritual and missionary powers will increase. I ask your support.

HARRY R. GUEST, Editor.

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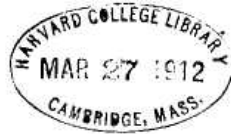
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The New-Church League Journal

JANUARY, 1912

Volume XII

Number 3



The Call of the West

BY DR. MARO F. UNDERWOOD

SHARPEN the goad! Fix up the old ox bow! We start for the West, for it is said that gold has been found in such quantities that there is enough for all! And so they journeyed by thousands, mostly with ox teams—the hardiest, sturdiest, most courageous young men of our land, in search of treasures hidden in the land of the setting sun.

A summer passed before these strong hearty men reached the backbone of the continent, from the crest of which they sighted a new country—a new empire with new features, new contour, new verdure, new possibilities. It was the land of gold!

This was more than sixty years ago and these courageous men were not disappointed, for all who came were made partakers of the boundless wealth of nature. Then they found, too, something they were not seeking. They found absolute freedom. In those days there was no law or government west of the Rockies. Men became their own lawmakers. The laws were fair and just and mutually agreed upon, but swift to be enforced. Men left behind them all restraints of home ties, religion and civil authority. Everyone became really himself, and this brought out most surprising things in men. Ministers of the gospel became gamblers; husbands became the worst of villains; Sunday-school superintendents become profligates; and some who had been most pious were first to become murderers and outlaws.

What a wonderful discovery they made—of themselves. While they found the gold in surprising abundance, their true inward natures, now without restraint, was to most of them the greatest astonishment of all.

Such then was one effect of the "Great West" upon those who came in the early days. And this brought about a sort of new civilization. Here men grew more and more to disregard conventionalities, lost their respect for the shallowness of hypocritical and formal things, and grew into self-reliant, independent workers and thinkers. Wherefore we have today on the Pacific coast, a civilization, a society, a people, distinctly different from that found east of the "Great Divide." The "Westerner" does not accept any one's word for anything. The common creeds of society or religion do not appeal to him. A slang saying in this new western world is that a man must be "shown" before he will believe. This then brings up the question, How can these men be reached by the truths of the New Age?

The new generations inherit all the freedom and self-reliance developed in the old, and have, besides, the advantage of the best educational facilities to be found anywhere. Under such conditions we find the most energetic, enter-